

Grand Army of the Republic  
NATIONAL  
MEMORIAL • HALL

—AT—

DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

R. J. OGLESBY, *Chairman*,  
Illinois.  
GEORGE A. MARDEN,  
Lowell, Mass.  
JOSEPH W. O'NEALL,  
Lebanon, Ohio.



LOCAL COMMITTEE.

JOSIAH M. CLOKEY,  
*Chairman*.  
M. F. KANAN.  
FRANK L. HAYS.  
W. C. JOHNS.  
GEO. R. STEELE, *Secretary*  
National and Local Committees.



ORGANIZED AND CHRISTENED AT DECATUR, ILLINOIS,

APRIL 6, 1866.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY, APRIL 6, 1891.

# GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,

Department



of Illinois.

To all whom it may Concern...Greeting:

Know Ye, That the Commander of the Department of Illinois, reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism and fidelity of McF. Kanaw, J. R. Steele, Geo. H. Dunning, J. C. Pugh, J. H. Hale, J. T. Bishop, C. Reibsame, J. W. Roitt, C. F. Sibley, J. A. Coltrin, Joseph Prior and A. Toland does, by the authority in him vested, empower and constitute them as **CHARTER MEMBERS**, of an Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to be known as Post Number One of Decatur District of Macore Department of Illinois, and they are hereby constituted as said Post, and authorized to make By-Laws for the government of said Post, and to do and perform all acts necessary to conduct and carry on said organization in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Done at Springfield, Ill., this Sixth day of  
April 1866.

B. F. Stephenson  
Commanding Department

Robert W. Woods  
Adjutant General



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and success of our memorial society is the only way in which we can  
the friends who will be glad to honor the memory of deceased comrades in sections of our country  
failures of crops have impoverished the local comrades, and from whom we can hardly hope for contri-  
butions. Many in all parts of the country cannot be reached, hence the importance of those who are  
able giving liberally.

With your remittance send Roster of Post, brought down to date, to be filed among the archives of  
the Temple, and so that on our "Roll of Honor" every contributing comrade's name may appear.

Major Frank L. Hays, of Decatur, has been appointed Trustee of the Memorial Hall Funds, and has  
filed his bond in the sum of \$300,000, approved by Wm. L. Diston, Commander Department of Illinois.  
All remittances should be made to Trustee Hays, by Draft, Postoffice Order or Express.

Where comrades cannot be reached by April 6th, please see to their contributions being received  
and forwarded.

With your loyal cooperation success is assured.

Yours, in F., C. and L.,

JOSIAH M. CLOKEY, Chairman.

GEORGE R. STEELE, Secretary.



**NATIONAL COMMITTEE.**

RICHARD J. OGBESBY, *Chairman*, ..... Illinois  
GEORGE A. MADDEN, ..... Lowell, Massachusetts  
JOSEPH W. O'NEILL, ..... Lebanon, Ohio

**LOCAL COMMITTEE.**

JOSIAH M. CLOKEY, *Chairman*,  
M. F. KANAN,  
FRANK L. HAYS,  
W. G. JOHNS,  
GEORGE R. STREBLE, *Secretary*,  
National and Local Committees.

# Grand Army of the Republic.

**HEADQUARTERS**

## National Memorial Hall Committee,

*Decatur, Illinois, March 2d, 1891.*

COMMANDER OF POST:

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: Herewith we hand you copies of our Pamphlet in reference to the G. A. R. National Memorial Hall. In view of the brief time intervening, we find it utterly impossible to reach each comrade with a copy, as intended. We feel that you are personally interested in the success of the enterprise and in seeing that every member of your Post is represented in the silver offerings that will insure a monument to the order worthy our pride. To you we will have to look for success, and ask that you have your secular press publish the addresses and advance the cause and success of your memorial service as much as possible. It is important that the cause be known and success be secured.



# GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL HALL.

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*To the Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic:*

On the 6th day of April, 1891, the Grand Army of the Republic will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of its birth. Twenty-five years ago the first post of the order was established in the city of Decatur, Ill., with twelve members. To-day it numbers over 7,000 Posts and nearly half a million members. Twenty-five years hence it will be but a remnant of an organization, with but a remnant of a future before it. It has no recruiting ground, save among those who actively served in the Union army and navy in the War of the Rebellion. It can hardly expect any considerable increase above its present membership, and in a few years it must look for an inevitable and rapidly growing decrease, as death musters out the veterans.

Every comrade must, therefore, look with interest upon any proposition to establish somewhere in the country a National Memorial of the Grand Army, in which and by which its glorious history and record may be preserved for all time to come.

At the recent National Encampment in Boston a resolution was adopted endorsing the plan of erecting a National Memorial Hall at Decatur, Ill., which should stand as a perpetual memento of the organization, and in which may be preserved its archives, trophies, relics, and whatever would illustrate its glorious history.

As it was impossible to provide for such a building and its maintenance, by assessment upon its posts, it was necessary to arrange for voluntary contributions from members of the order, and to devise measures to establish such a memorial, the undersigned have been appointed a committee by the Commander-in-Chief.

The committee assembled in Decatur on the 14th of January, 1891, and in conference with the officers of the Department of Illinois and a committee of Dunham Post (the reorganized original first post of the Grand Army), arrangements for the formation of a corporation under the laws of Illinois have been made. This corporation is, in a sense, to represent the order through the several Departments and the National Encampment, and will be legally authorized to hold property and care for whatever may be entrusted to it.

The general plan is to erect a suitable Memorial Building at Decatur, in which may be deposited such records of Departments and Posts as may be sent there, and such trophies, relics, curiosities, literature, pictures, etc., as may be offered, illustrative of the war, and congruous with the object arrived at,

subject always to the approval of the directors of the corporation. How extensive and expensive the building shall be, must depend upon the liberality of the members of the Grand Army. Besides erecting a suitable building, it must be properly equipped and furnished, and a fund must be established for its proper maintenance.

The committee suggests that if each Post could be relied upon to collect what would be equivalent to a half dollar for each member, a sufficient sum for all requirements would be provided. There are some, perhaps many, to whom even the contribution of a half-dollar would be a burden ; but it certainly must be true that there are in every Post enough who are amply able to make good the contributions of those who are unable to give that sum, and so make the aggregate what is desired.

What more appropriate recognition could there be of the *quarto-centennial* of the Grand Army than for the Posts all over the country to make their offering for this National Memorial. Surely no Post will fail to celebrate in some way this silver anniversary. We beg our comrades to make this contribution their witness to the warmth of their attachment to the order, and to the principles of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, which are its watchwords.

It is recommended that each Post, between now and the date of the silver anniversary of the Grand Army, make a strenuous effort to secure a contribution to this object amounting in the aggregate to at least a half-dollar for each comrade borne on its rolls, and that the money be transmitted to the treasurer of the corporation to be established in Illinois, to be used for the purposes for which it is established. And the committee venture to earnestly request Department Commanders of the several Departments to do all in their power to encourage the Posts under their command to make the collection referred to promptly, so that at the coming *quarto-centennial* celebration by our comrades at Decatur, Illinois, the success of the enterprise may be assured.

RICHARD J. OGLESBY, *of Illinois.*

GEORGE A. MARDEN, *of Mass.*

JOSEPH W. O'NEALL, *of Ohio.*

*National Committee.*

GEORGE R. STEELE, *Secretary.*



## TO THE COMRADES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

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In presenting the project of erecting a National Memorial Hall by the members of the Grand Army of the Republic, it is fitting that a brief history of the order and resume of the work as progressed should be submitted.

An organization that is original in its conception, fraternal, charitable and loyal in its purposes, grand in its achievements, and which is now in the zenith of its glory, suggests the enquiry:—Who were its founders, where its first organization, what its life and how perpetuate its memory and teachings.

Major B. F. Stephenson, of Springfield, Illinois, our late comrade, was the founder of the Grand Army of the Republic. Loved as a comrade in life, his memory will be revered and honored in history as the founder of an order without a peer, and whose every inspiration is ennobling.

At the earnest request of Comrades J. W. Routh and M. F. Kanan, of Decatur, Ill., Maj. Stephenson visited Decatur early in the spring of 1866, and placed his manuscript plans of organization, briefs for ritual, &c., in the hands of a committee composed of Dr. J. W. Routh, Capt. J. T. Bishop, Capt. M. F. Kanan, Maj. Geo. R. Steele and Capt. George H. Dunning, who revised and formulated the original constitution, regulations and ritual of the order. Comrades I. N. Coltrin and Joseph Prior, skilled printers, were duly obligated, and to them was entrusted the printing of the several documents. But few copies of these prized documents, sacred to all devoted comrades, are now extant. To this committee is due the honor of christening the order as the

### “GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.”

Comrade B. F. Stephenson, acting as Provisional Commander of the Department of Illinois, on

APRIL 6, 1886, AT DECATUR, ILLINOIS,

established the first encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to be known as

### POST NUMBER ONE OF DECATUR,

#### DISTRICT OF MACON, DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS.

At this the first assembly, Comrades *M. F. Kanan, George R. Steele, George H. Dunning, I. C. Pugh, J. H. Nale, J. T. Bishop, C. Riebsame, J. W. Routh, B. F. Sibley, I. N. Coltrin, Joseph Prior* and *A. Toland* were mustered in by Commander Stephenson as the charter members of Post One. To them were the obligations in the ritual prescribed, administered.

The following officers were then elected and installed:

#### OFFICERS FOR THE DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. I. C. Pugh, Commandant of District.

Lieut. Col. J. H. Nale, District Quartermaster.

Dr. J. W. Routh, District Adjutant.

#### OFFICERS FOR THE POST.

M. F. Kanan, P. C.

Chris Riebsame, O. D.

G. R. Steele, P. A.

J. T. Bishop, O. G.

G. H. Dunning, P. Q. M.

J. W. Routh, P. Surgeon.

This band of heroes knew not how they builded. Little did they realize theirs was an inspiration and they the agents in divine hands to establish the grandest brotherhood and school of patriotism the world ever knew.

Here was the first muster; here the first work under the ritual; here the first fruition of an inspiration that now voices its principles of charity, loyalty and patriotism through over 7000 Posts, numbering near 500,000 comrades.

We have entered upon the *quarto*-centennial year of our order, and on April 6, 1891, will be celebrated the silver anniversary of the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic. Over twenty-five years have passed since the close of the war that made us comrades and made possible such a brotherhood. Four years of bitter war, in camp, on the march and upon the battle field sealed in privation and blood that fraternity which has kept us "elbow to elbow" as we march to the music of a Union saved.

The Grand Army was organized, not to perpetuate the bitterness and hatred engendered by the war, but "to preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together, &c."

One of its earliest acts was to establish, in 1868, that beautiful ceremony of decorating the graves of our fallen comrades, and Memorial Day is now a national day. It is the festival of our dead, when we unite to honor the memories of our brave and beloved, to enrich and ennoble our lives by recalling a public heroism and a private worth that are immortal, to encourage by our solemn service a more zealous and stalwart patriotism.

Through the influence of the Grand Army of the Republic "Soldiers' Homes" have been established, State and National, and destitute comrades, stricken by disease, wounds, privation and age, have been assembled from the poor houses and desolate homes and cared for in tenderness and love—the wards of our country's loyalty. Beneficent pension laws have been secured and the world taught that Republics are grateful.

All over the land our beautiful flag—the emblem of liberty—has been placed by comrades on our school houses, teaching daily to the rising generations, as the orb of day spans the heavens, lessons of patriotism and love of country. Every Post is an altar, every camp-fire a shrine where we pledge ourselves anew to the principles of fraternity, charity and loyalty—the watch-words of our order—and renew our vows of devotion to the flag.

Ours has been no idle mission. God, His angels and humanity honor the men who voiced their patriotism in four years of war, and who for twenty-five years have by individual and united devotion maintained and forever sealed the principles for which they fought. As during the war, noble women, God bless them, braved the exposures of the hospitals and the carnage of the battle-field that they might administer to the sick and wounded; so they have rallied to the call of the G. A. R., and in their several organizations have aided in caring for needy comrades and their families.

In every precinct of our land there are nightly vigils, where sits a watching comrade and bows a devoted sister, catching the parting words of a dying soldier, "Bury me with my Grand Army badge on." Into the coffers of these various organizations pours a constant stream of our givings, to be disbursed

in works of charity and love. Near a half million yearly is thus spent in deeds of fraternity, besides large amounts given individually and not reported.

No other brotherhood can show such devotion and love. Passing years age the heroes, increase the roll of the needy and emphasize the wisdom of our order. Cast the comrades upon the charity of an unthinking world, that feels not our kinship, and to whom the ties that bind us are unknown, and instead of being the "roll of honor" it would be the "pauper list." God forbid.

According to the national statistics the average age of the volunteer army now in homes is about 51 years, and from the average expectancy every Soldier's Home in the United States will be closed in twenty-three years. Within much less time scarce a Post can command a "corporal's guard," and with few exceptions the G. A. R. Posts will have heard the last closing services; the last camp-fire embers will have ceased to glow, and the hush of deserted halls will sadden the hearts of the few surviving comrades scattered here and there over the country, the relics of our nation's greatest heroes. Year by year has a brigade of the soldiers of the Union passed to the encampment above, and our rapidly depleting ranks tell how yearly the death roll increases. Soon the last ritual service for the dead will have been said, the last prayer uttered, the last symbol of undying love, of purity and affection have been laid upon the coffin, and the last parting salute have been heard.

But why, in this our year of jubilee, mingle the sounds of muffled drums with the chimes that ring out the joys of the silver anniversary of the G. A. R.? It is that we might emphasize a present duty and improve an opportunity that may rest as a benediction upon future generations. Grand as were the achievements of the war, their results would have been minimized but for the twenty-five years of active influence on the part of the Grand Army of the Republic. "With malice toward none and charity for all" the G. A. R. has ever kept at the front the flag of our Union, inspiring with patriotic ardor our citizens, and maintaining and sealing for all time the principles for which we fought. An organized host of patriotic heroes that have educated public opinion, stayed the wavering ones in our halls of legislation, in their silent grandeur taught home and foreign enemies to respect the flag, and that the United States is an armed camp of defenders.

Great as has been our work, greater and more important is the work before us. The future beckons us on, and the command to every comrade is *Attention!* As we stand in line there appears before us our great commander-in-chief, the God above; on either side our loved, revered leaders, Lincoln, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Logan, and the army of comrades who have but preceded us to the encampment above. In silence we wait. It is a horoscope of the future rather than a review of the past that the Great Commander presents. While the issues of the past have been stupendous, the issues of the future will be even greater. The mission of the G. A. R. in fraternity and charity, save in their lessons, will have been fulfilled within the span of our lives. But our mission of loyalty will survive, and like the waves of the ocean, cast its surf upon the shores of eternity. The millions living and yet unborn demand that our work be perpetuated and that we rise to our opportunities, and in monumental glory,

honor our order and establish that which shall for all time speak of our life-work and inspire the future with loyalty to the Union and the flag; that shall stand as a constant rebuke to treason, an inspiration to love of country.

By our own act the life of our order is prescribed. Our ranks can only be recruited from the soldiers of the Union. With their death dies the Grand Army of the Republic, and whatever is done must be done quickly. The question is, what shall the Grand Army of the Republic do to perpetuate the history of its organization, to preserve the records of its Posts, Departments and Encampments, to collect its mementoes, and make sure that in all future time they shall be ready for the inspection of the historian and exemplars to the youths of this nation of the patriotism of generations gone by.

States, as such, can have no interest in these records or mementoes, for they are the property of an order of men, once heroes, it is true, but now merely citizens. The National Government cannot preserve them because it would arouse the hostilities of those who fear to perpetuate the memories of the war. Unfortunately, too, there are States to whose rulers such things would be unpleasant, while from their very boundaries came legions of heroes who offered their lives and shed their blood that a Republic might be maintained and universal liberty in the United States be accomplished.

There is nothing left, therefore, for the Grand Army of the Republic but to establish for itself a Temple of Patriotism, a storehouse of records, mementoes and curiosities, a monument to its patriotism, a museum or school of loyalty.

The necessity of such a temple is self-evident. A temple as grand as the order which erected it; as large as the wisdom and liberality of loving soldiers shall dictate; as enduring as the everlasting hills, and by a wise system of finance, by a liberal system of endowment, made perpetually self-sustaining in the care of loving hands. Its best description ought to be: It is in every respect worthy of the soldiers of the Union, whom it commemorates, and of the organization, the most powerful on earth, which erected it.

As at Decatur, Illinois, the Grand Army of the Republic had its birth, so here was solved the problem of how to perpetuate the memory of our order and its principles, viz.: The erection by the comrades of a

#### NATIONAL GRAND ARMY MEMORIAL HALL.

The suggestion had but to be made to inspire every devoted comrade with enthusiasm, and the fruition was a submission of the project to the Encampment convened at Boston August last. Boston, the cradle of liberty, what more fitting than the endorsement there, under the shadow of Bunker Hill Monument, of the proposed erection at Decatur, Ill., the birth-place of our order, of a National Memorial Hall, a monument to the glory of the Grand Army of the Republic. Bunker Hill telling to the world how our liberties were won, and the G. A. R. Temple the story of how our liberties were preserved.

The following resolutions, offered by Comrade Diston, Commander Department of Illinois, met the unanimous endorsement of the committee on resolutions and were, on August 14, 1890, unanimously adopted by the Encampment:

WHEREAS, In twenty-four years the Grand Army of the Republic has not established any permanent repository for its records, trophies and mementoes, nor taken any steps to perpetuate its memory or preserve its history, and



WHEREAS, The organization cannot exist longer than the lives of the soldiers of the Union.

Therefore, by the representatives and delegates assembled in the Twenty-Fourth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, be it

*Resolved*, That there shall be established by the Order a Soldiers' National Memorial Hall, in which there shall be stored and preserved the official records of the Encampments, Departments and Posts, and the trophies of the war which belong to organizations and individuals, and

*Resolved*, That as the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic had its origin at the city of Decatur, in the State of Illinois, it would appear proper and appropriate to erect such Memorial Hall at that place, it being near the centre of population and easy of access from all points; and

*Resolved*, That the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic be, and is hereby, instructed to appoint a Committee on Memorial Hall, whose duty it shall be to complete the organization of the proper corporation under the laws of Illinois, and to report the plans for the erection, management and permanent maintenance of such Memorial Hall.

The Encampment having no authority to make an assessment for the purpose, recommended the erection of the Memorial Hall by the voluntary subscriptions of the comrades.

From all parts of the country come words of cheer and proffers from the comrades of their contributions, and the project strikes a chord of sympathy in the heart of every comrade.

Under the instructions of the Encampment, Commander-in-Chief Veazey appointed a National Committee, composed of Comrades Richard J. Oglesby, of Illinois, chairman; George A. Marden, of Massachusetts, and Joseph W. O'Neill, of Ohio, for the purpose of completing the organization of the proper corporation under the laws of Illinois, and devising plans for the erection, management and permanent maintenance of the Memorial Hall. The committee convened and organized at Decatur, Ill., on January 14, 1891, and arranged for the early perfecting of the incorporation and adoption of the best method for raising the necessary funds. Their address, herewith submitted, speaks the zeal and spirit that characterize the committee. That their appeal will meet a liberal and warm response from every old soldier is not to be questioned. Yet to reach the comrades is a stupendous undertaking. The work will be simplified by the active co-operation of Department and Post Commanders, as requested by the National Committee. In this grand work we ask that no old soldier be overlooked. Let the record of donations be a complete roster of the surviving soldiers of the Union, and why not of all deceased comrades—each Post or a friend contributing in memory of the dead!

We have entered upon the *quarto-centennial* year of the G. A. R.

At the National Encampment at Boston, the following resolution, offered by Comrade Stewart, of Pennsylvania, was adopted.

*Resolved*, That the commander-in-chief-elect be requested to take such action as will tend to a proper celebration of the *quarto-centennial* of the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic, the first Post having been organized at Decatur, Illinois, April 6, 1866.

By virtue of this resolution the comrades of the Union will be summoned to meet in their several Post Halls on the evening of April 6, 1891, to celebrate the silver anniversary of the G. A. R. At Decatur, Ill., will occur the National celebration of the event. What more fitting than that the comrades should



celebrate the silver anniversary by contributing their silver offerings to the erection of our National Memorial Hall. Let this, our anniversary year, be honored by the erection of our National Temple. It will not be ours to celebrate the golden anniversary. To the Sons of Veterans we will leave that event, and, assembled within the Temple erected by their sires, they will in song and eloquent address tell the story of their fathers and recount the history of the Grand Army of the Republic. Let the Department and Post officials and comrades respond promptly and liberally. It is a token of love—and see that no old soldier is missing. Have your work completed in season, and when assembled in your Post Halls on the evening of April 6, 1891, under the inspiration of our National hymn, let the comrades lay their offerings on the altar and pledge themselves anew to that fraternity of feeling which binds us together as comrades, that charity which prompts us to the noblest sacrifices for the needy and destitute wards of our grand army, and that loyalty which binds us to a faithful performance of our duties as citizens, and to an undying vigilance which is the price of liberty. We but echo the suggestions of the National Committee in asking that each Post, during the evening, wire to the comrades assembled at Decatur, the amount of your giving, with words of fraternity.

Around the shrine, where our order had its birth and christening, will we gather and realize that our hymn of "Glory to God in the Highest" is taken up by the comrades in every Post Hall, and by the comrades all over the land, and that from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the cypress to the pines, our *Te Deum* of praise will be uttered. What a grand chorus! While we sing upon earth, in mid-air and in heaven the comrades on the eternal camping grounds will take up the response, and men and angels will voice the glory of our nation and the nation's band of patriot heroes.

Yes, as grand as the order which erected it and as enduring as the everlasting hills, will be our Temple. Here, in the years to come, will be gathered valued records, mementoes, trophies, flags and all those precious relics of a great conflict, and the valuable and historic property which in each Post we hold so dear.

To this Mecca of loyalty the aged veteran may make his pilgrimage, and the generations to come may repair and learn lessons of heroism, of fraternity, charity and loyalty. Within its walls would be gathered the greatest library of war material to be found in the country, an unlimited fund for future historians. The magnitude and grandeur of the project grows with consideration, and enthusiastic response will place at the command of the association on our anniversary night ample funds for a grand temple. Thousands within our ranks have been blessed financially and who are devoted to the order, and who will embrace this opportunity of perpetuating the memory of the G. A. R., and in honoring which they will be honored. The greatest monument they can erect for themselves will be a monument to an organization in which they are honored members, in perpetuating whose memory their own memories and noble deeds will be perpetuated.

Local Memorial Halls may serve a limited or temporary purpose, but as our order is neither local or sectional, but national—so should be our Memorial Hall.

Comrades of the Grand Army of Republic, the National Encampment has done its duty in the premises. The national and local committees have sought to meet the responsibility devolved upon them by the Encampment, and now it rests with you to say what will be the fruition of our labors. Ever having responded to the call of duty in the past, you will not now be found wanting.

JOSIAH M. CLOKEY, Chairman.

M. F. KANAN.

FRANK L. HAYS.

W. C. JOHNS.

GEORGE R. STEELE, Secretary.

*Local Committee.*



**NATIONAL MEMORIAL HALL ASSOCIATION**  
**G.A.R. Organized at**  
 Decatur, Illinois.  
 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1866.  
 Silver Anniversary  
 6<sup>th</sup> April 1891.  
 Present Membership  
 450,000.  
**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC**

**WABASH R.R.**  
 Hannibal, Keokuk, Des Moines  
 San Francisco, Quincy, Han. City.

**P.D.&E. R.R.**  
 Peoria, Burlington, Rock Island  
 Davenport & all points W. & N.W.

**T.H.&P. R.R.**  
 Peoria, Omaha, W. & N.W.  
 Denver and all points W. & N.W.

**ILL. CENT. R.R.**  
 Dubuque - St. Paul  
 Minneapolis, Sioux City, Iowa to Ill.

**ILL. CENT. R.R.**  
 Champaign, Chicago

**WABASH R.R.**  
 Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis  
 Madison, Milwaukee.

**WABASH R.R.**  
 Toledo, Detroit, Boston  
 Baltimore, Washington, Philad.

**WABASH R.R.**  
 Paducah

**I.D. & W. R.R.**  
 Indianapolis, Phil. Cincinnati  
 Columbus, Louisville & Pittsburg

**T.H.&P. R.R.**  
 Terre Haute, Louisville

**P.D.&E. R.R.**  
 Evansville - Nashville

**ILL. CENT. R.R.**  
 Cairo, St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans

**WABASH R.R.**  
 St. Louis, Galveston, Kansas City, Pueblo

Decatur, Illinois The Birth-  
 place of  
 Central City  
 the Union.  
 Miles of Decatur  
 and are located  
 a membership

the G.A.R. is the  
 of the Central State of  
 Within a radius of 500  
 reside over 32,000,000 people,  
 over 4,200 G.A.R. Posts with  
 of over 200,000 Comrades.